

## The Covenant of Eden

**The Covenant of Eden is a conditional covenant.**

God gave Adam the responsibilities of multiplying the human race, subdue the earth, and take dominion over all living things.

- *Genesis 1:28-30* "God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so."

Then the Lord told them, do not eat of the tree of Good and Evil. His commands told them what they should do and what they should not do. In their disobedience the plan of God was broken. Eden was the perfect place. God gave it to them to live, to enjoy, and to fellowship with Him (he walked in the garden with them), and they broke that covenant. God's plan depended on the faithfulness of Adam. Adam had a choice to make, he made the wrong choice, and therefore, it brought about God's declaration of what will be.

- *Genesis 2:16&17* "And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

**Because Eve listened to the temptation of the serpent and ate of that fruit, God declared to the serpent first:**

- *Genesis 3:14-15* "So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

**And then to the woman he said:**

- *To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."*

**And then to Adam:**

- *To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."*

Because of their sin, they broke their wonderful relationship with Father God. God loved man and woman enough that he made away, and that was His promise of a redeemer which was fulfilled through Jesus his Son.

**What does that mean to us?**

We are born with the nature of Adam, which is a sinful nature. Therefore, we needed a Redeemer, and God gave us Jesus, through Jesus' sacrifice we are clothed in righteousness and have a spiritual nature, and the spiritual nature in us battles against the physical nature (the flesh). Paul says in *Romans 7:15-20*, "*I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.*"